

# STRIKING SPECIFIC PRIVATIZATION CRITERIA IN ORBIT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 976 introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 976) striking the specific privatization criteria in ORBIT for Intelsat separated entities (New Skies) and Inmarsat and other technical corrections.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 976) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 976

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SEC. SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR INTEL SAT SEPARATED ENTITIES AND INMARSAT MODIFIED.

(a) AMENDMENT.—The Communications Satellite Act of 1962 (47 U.S.C. 701 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking section 623 (47 U.S.C. 763b), and

(2) in section 624 (47 U.S.C. 763c), by striking “In securing the privatizations” and all that follows, and inserting “In securing the privatization of Inmarsat required by section 621, and thereafter, the United States shall preserve space segment capacity of the GMDSS.”

(3) in section 621(5)(D)(ii) (47 U.S.C. 763), by striking “(I)” and by striking”, or (II) have any direct financial interest” and all that follows through the end of the subparagraph, and inserting “;”.

(4) in section 621(5)(D)(iv) (47 U.S.C. 763), by striking “(I)” and by striking”, or (II) have any direct financial interest” and all that follows through the end of the subparagraph, and inserting “;”.

(b) SATELLITE SERVICE REPORT.—The Commission shall review competitive market conditions with respect to domestic and international satellite communications services and shall include in an annual report an analysis of those conditions. Such analysis shall include an identification of the number and market share of competitors in domestic and international satellite markets, including an analysis of whether there is effective competition in the market for domestic and international satellite services, and shall include a list of any foreign nations in which legal or regulatory practices restrict access to the market for satellite services in such nation in a manner that undermines competition or favors a particular competitor or set of competitors.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as of the date of enactment of this section.

## ADJOURNMENT AUTHORITY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority

leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader, assistant majority leader, and senior Senator from Virginia be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 975

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 975) to provide incentives to increase research by private sector entities to develop medical countermeasures to prevent, detect, identify, contain, and treat illnesses, including those associated with a biological, chemical, nuclear, or radiological weapons attack or an infectious disease outbreak, and for other purposes.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read a second time on the next legislative day.

## ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, the Senate stand in adjournment until 2 p.m. on Monday, May 9. I further ask consent that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 3, the highway bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, on Monday, May 9, the Senate will resume consideration of the highway bill. We have made some progress on the bill this week, and we will continue our work when we return. I encourage Senators who wish to offer amendments to contact the bill managers over the next week so they can schedule time for floor consideration. Senators should expect one or more rollcall votes in relation to amendments to begin at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 9.

In addition to the highway bill, it is my hope that the conference report to

accompany the Iraq-Afghanistan supplemental appropriations bill will be available upon our return. It is my intention to move to this conference report as soon as it becomes ready.

I would also like to congratulate the chairman of the Budget Committee once again on completing work on the fiscal year 2006 budget resolution. It was just a few minutes ago that we were able to adopt the conference report, and Senator GREGG should be complimented for his hard work and his diligence.

## ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005, AT 2 P.M.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of S. Con. Res. 29.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:26 a.m., adjourned until Monday, May 9, 2005, at 2 p.m.

## NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 28, 2005:

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DONALD E. BOOTH, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

MOLLY HERING BORDONARO, OF OREGON, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA.

JULIE FINLEY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

RICHARD J. GRIFFIN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (DIPLOMATIC SECURITY), VICE FRANCIS X. TAYLOR, RESIGNED.

RICHARD J. GRIFFIN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS, AND TO HAVE THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE, VICE FRANCIS X. TAYLOR, RESIGNED.

JOSEPH A. MUSSOMELI, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA.

### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

RICHARD L. SKINNER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE CLARK KENT ERVIN.

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

KEVIN F. SULLIVAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE LAURIE RICH, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CATHERINE LUCILLE HANAWAY, OF MISSOURI, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE RAYMOND W. GRUENDER, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DINA HABIB POWELL, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS), VICE PATRICIA DE STACY HARRISON.

## CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate Thursday, April 28, 2005:

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

STEPHEN L. JOHNSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ROBERT J. PORTMAN, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

JONATHAN BRIAN PERLIN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.